TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI
ERST 5302- STUDIES IN EQUALITY OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
Blackboard

Course/Sec: ERST 5302  Instructor: Dr. M. McConnell
Dates: Summer Minimester I, 2014; 5/14 – 7/1  Office: Virtual: (email, WebEx, or phone)
Office Phone: 361-244-7486  Office Hours: Phone/email: M - TH, 9 AM- 4 PM
E-Mail: Through BlackBoard melissa.mcconnell@tamucc.edu  WebEx: By Appointment

ERST 5302 is an Online Course:
ERST 5302 uses Blackboard as its only teaching and learning environment. All ERST 5302 students must have access to Blackboard to be successful in this course. Blackboard is available through the TAMU-CC homepage and requires ERST5302 students to have their normal NET ID to log into the course on Blackboard.

Since ERST 5302 is a fully online course, the instructor and TAMU-CC assume that students who enroll in the course have, or will quickly obtain, the technical expertise, hardware, and software required to be successful in the course.

There is a student tutorial available on the Island Online website (http://iol.tamucc.edu). If you have any problems logging in, the Blackboard helpdesk phone number is 361-825-2825.

You are required to check your Blackboard account every day for announcements, assignment due dates, and/or assignment directions.

This course utilizes PDF files. In order to access these files, please make sure that you have downloaded Adobe Reader to your computer. Adobe Reader is free.

I strongly recommend that students do not use tablets, iPads or forward their emails to their phones as those systems are unreliable and content is often lost.

Begin this course by reading the syllabus very carefully. You can access the schedule, assignments, discussions, and assessments in this course by using the Course Schedule Overview Tab, Assignment Tab, Discussion Board Tab, or Assessment Tab on the tool bar on the left side of the course homepage.

If you have difficulty accessing any of the Course Content, please let me know as quickly as possible. The quickest way to contact me is through TAMUCC Islander email in Blackboard. If you choose to contact me via telephone, please identify yourself and the course number clearly.

I will respond to email, Monday through Thursday within 48 hours, with the exception of weekends and/or holidays.

Online Office Hours:
Office hours are virtual through WebEx, Islander email (provide your full name and course number in the email), and telephone.

Email:
Use the “Islander email” tool on the tool bar on the left side of the course content page in Blackboard to contact me with questions and/or issues relating to this class.

Please always include your first and last name and course ERST 5302 in your email.

It is much easier for me to respond to your concerns if you contact me through the communication tools in Blackboard. Here’s why: if you contact me through the Islander email tool in Blackboard, the message includes
course information in the subject line that helps me identify you and the course about which you have a question. If you have a question about the class, it is much faster and much easier for me to answer your question if I know who you are and the class in question.

I normally respond to class related email very quickly, but please allow me at least forty-eight hours to respond to mail about the class. I am not in the online course on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

Normally, I will not read or respond to mail before 9:00 AM on Monday or after 5:00 PM on Thursday, but like many of you, I sometimes cannot help responding to a particularly intriguing comment or email. If I am going to be out of the normal classroom for more than forty-eight hours, I will post an announcement notifying the class of a return date. Again, I am typically out of the classroom Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Although, not recommended, If you contact me through “regular” Islander email (which means you did not use the Islander email link in Blackboard), make sure to include the course number and section in the subject line and clearly identify yourself somewhere in the email by the name you use for the class. This class may combine more than one section of ERST 5302. If I cannot identify you, I will not respond.

Many of you will have great questions that will benefit all students to know the answers. Therefore, I will respond to all students in the class unless you specifically state “confidential” in the subject line in your email to me.

Devices:
I strongly recommend that students do not use tablets, iPads, or forward their email to their phones as those devices are unreliable and content is often lost.

I will not respond to email that comes through any mail service other than TAMUCC email. I will not respond to Gmail, Hotmail, or any other mail service. Using the university email system assures my students and me that there is a paper trail of all of our electronic conversations in case there is a future misunderstanding.

Office Phone: 361-244-7486
If you choose to leave a message, include the course number, your full name, your phone number, and your message in a clear, strong voice. I assure you I will call you back as soon as I get the message as long as I know who I am calling and why. **My phone does not accept text messages.**

Technical Difficulties:
Students who have technical difficulties of any type should contact TAMU-CC Information Technology (IT) or Distant Education for assistance. Links to IT and Blackboard can be found on the course homepage using the Start Here tab.

I. Course Description:
ERST 5302 examines issues and perspectives concerning education in a culturally diverse society. The experiences and concepts associated with cultural pluralism, including ethnicity and race, socioeconomic status, gender, language, religion, and exceptionality will be studied relative to educational experiences in classroom or related professional settings.

II. Rationale:
This course is part of the foundational components of all College of Education professional degrees at the Masters level. The course aims to prepare educational professionals to work in the culturally diverse society of the United States.

III. State Adopted Proficiencies for Administrators:
The state-adopted proficiencies covered in this course include the following:
1. **Learner-Centered Climate.** The administrator establishes a climate of mutual trust and respect which enables all members of the learning community to seek and attain excellence.

2. **Learner-Centered Curriculum and Instruction.** The administrator facilitates the presentation of sound curriculum and appropriate instructional strategies designed to promote optimal learning.

3. **Equity in Excellence for all Learners.** The administrator promotes equity in excellence in all by acknowledging, respecting, and responding to diversity among students and staff while building on shared values and other similarities that bond all people.

### III-A State Adopted Proficiencies for Teachers:

The state adopted proficiencies covered in this course include the following:

1. **Learner-Centered Instruction:** To create a learner-centered community, the teacher collaboratively identifies needs; and plans, implements, and assesses instruction using technology and other resources.

2. **Equity in Excellence for all Learners:** The teacher responds appropriately to diverse groups of learners.

### IV. TExES COMPETENCES

**DOMAIN I – Designing Instruction and Assessment to Promote Student Learning**

001. The teacher understands human developmental processes and applies this knowledge to plan instruction and ongoing assessment that motivates students and are responsive to their developmental characteristics and needs.

002. The teacher understands student diversity and knows how to plan learning experiences and design assessments that are responsive to differences among students and that promote student learning.

004. The teacher understands learning processes and factors that impact student learning and demonstrates this knowledge by planning effective, engaging instruction and appropriate assessments.

**DOMAIN II – Creating a Positive, Productive Classroom Environment**

005. The teacher knows how to establish a classroom climate that fosters learning, equity and excellence and uses this knowledge to create a physical and emotional environment that is safe and productive.

**DOMAIN III – Implementing Effective, Responsive Instruction and Assessment**

007. The teacher understands and applies principles and strategies for communicating effectively in varied teaching and learning contexts.

**DOMAIN IV – Fulfilling Professional Roles and Responsibilities**

011. The teacher understands the importance of family involvement in children’s education and knows how to interact and communicate effectively with families.

### SCHOOL COUNSELOR STANDARDS

**DOMAIN I Understanding Students**

**Learner Centered Equity and Excellence for all Learners:** The professional counselor promotes academic success for all learners by acknowledging, respecting and responding to diversity while building on similarities that bond all people.

002. **(Student Diversity)**

The school counselor understands human diversity and applies this knowledge to ensure that the developmental guidance and counseling program is responsive to all students.

The beginning school counselor:

- Demonstrates an understanding of ways to create and maintain a positive school environment in which diversity is acknowledged and respected.
- Knows and applies strategies for positive, effective communication with students and their families.
- Understands student differences (e.g. in relation to culture, economics, gender, ethnicity, and learning style), and knows how to provide a developmental guidance and counseling program that meets the needs of all students.
- Understanding characteristics and needs of all students who are members of special populations (e.g. gifted and talented, homeless, migrant, and special education).
• Demonstrates knowledge of how to facilitate the learning and achievement of all students, including special populations, by promoting a cooperative, inclusive, and purposeful learning environment.
• Demonstrates an understanding of how to promote awareness of and responsiveness to learning differences and other types of diversity in the learning community.
• Advocates for a school environment in which diversity is acknowledged and respected.

**TEKS COMPETENCIES FOR PRINCIPALS**

002. The principal knows how to communicate and collaborate with all members of the school community, respond to diverse interests and needs, and mobilize resources to promote student success.

The principal knows how to:
- Communicate effectively with families and other community members in varied educational contexts
- Apply skills for building consensus and managing conflict
- Communicate and work effectively with diverse groups in the school community to ensure that all students have an equal opportunity for educational success.

003. The principal knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical and legal manner.

The principal knows how to:
- Apply legal guidelines (e.g. in relation to students with disabilities, bilingual education, confidentiality, discrimination) to protect the rights of students and staff and to improve learning opportunities
- Serve as an advocate for all children
- Promote the continuous and appropriate development of all students
- Promote awareness of learning differences, multicultural awareness, gender sensitivity and ethnic appreciation.

006. The principal knows how to advocate, nurture, and sustain an instructional program and a campus culture that are conducive to student learning and staff professional growth.

The principal knows how to:
- Ensure responsiveness to diverse sociological, linguistic, cultural, and other factors that may affect students’ development and learning.

V. Learning Objectives:

This course is designed to enable students to:
1. Define vocabulary pertinent to cultural diversity, cultural and multicultural concepts;
2. Explain how cultural values impact education;
3. Discuss the process of becoming multicultural;
4. Discuss the historical and legal development of multicultural education;
5. Define and explain the causes of prejudice, discrimination, and racism, and how it might be changed;
6. Explain how cultural values impact learning styles and learning;
7. Analyze the deep culture and surface culture elements of a particular cultural group;
8. Explain teaching strategies that have been found effective for ethnically and linguistically diverse populations;
9. Explain how teacher expectation impact student achievement;
10. Evaluate educational materials for cultural sensitivity;
11. Evaluate school curriculum for cultural sensitivity;
12. Explain how student lessons can be made more multicultural;
13. Describe successful educational programs that meet the needs of diverse populations;
14. Discuss the different levels of a multicultural curriculum.
15. Discuss program requirements for bilingual education programs, migrant programs, gifted and talented programs, and inclusion.

VI. Course Topics:

The following topics will be covered in this course: The processes of enculturation, assimilation, acculturation, cultural diversity, cultural pluralism, racism, prejudice, discrimination, multiculturalism,
multicultural curriculum development, cultural sensitivity, teacher expectations and student achievement, surface culture, deep culture, culture and learning, bilingual education, learning styles, inclusion, exceptionality, special populations, compensatory education, and integrated instruction.

VII. Instructional Methods and Activities:
Methods and activities for instruction for this course will include:
1. Classroom Experiences (discussion threads, collaboration, peer review, research writing group work, individual work, online deliveries and reflection).

VIII. Evaluation and Grade Assignment

Overview of Course Requirements:
1. Syllabus Quiz (100 points);
2. Autobiographical Sketch (50 points);
3. Initial Response to Assigned Readings (360 points);
4. Response to Peers’ Responses to Assigned Reading (360 points);
5. IRIS Module (100 points);
6. Research Article Review on Children’s Multicultural Literature (100 points);
7. Cultural Research Project (100 points);
8. Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation (100 points);
9. Evaluation of Partner’s Cultural Research Project (100 points);
10. Evaluation of Partner’s Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation and Research (100 points);
11. Final Submission of Cultural Research Project (100 points);
12. Final Submission of Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation and Research (100 points);

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1670 – 1503</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1502 – 1336</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1335 – 1169</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1168 – 1002</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 1002</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grades are typically reported one week after the due date of the assignment or exam.

Policy for an Incomplete Grade:
The TAMU—CC policy for awarding a grade of Incomplete is as follows:

*Incomplete*- An incomplete notation may be given to a student who is passing but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control other than lack of time.

The key words are “a student who is passing” and “for reasons beyond the student’s control other than lack of time.”

You must request a grade of “Incomplete” in writing before the last day of class (not during finals week) and the request must include acceptable written evidence that the reason for the request is that you have experienced circumstances beyond your control that have prevented you from completing the learning activities in the course, and you must be passing the course at the time of the request. Awarding a grade of Incomplete is at the instructor’s discretion. If the student believes that the instructor has been arbitrary or capricious in the grading policy, she or he may use the grade appeals process described in the syllabus and on the Student Affairs homepage.

Detailed Description of Course Requirements:
1. **Syllabus Quiz (100 points possible)**
The Syllabus Quiz is available in Blackboard by clicking on the Assessment link on the left side of the course homepage. Students are required to complete the Syllabus Quiz no later than the due date listed in the Course Schedule Overview found in the syllabus and on the course Blackboard homepage.

While students may search for the answers to the Syllabus Quiz in any manner they wish, I encourage students to print the syllabus so they will have a hard copy to shuffle through as they search for answers to questions on the quiz.

Feel free to collaborate with your peers to check your answers before you take the quiz. You will have two chances to post your answers and you will not be able to revise your answers once you have completed the second attempt. Additionally, Blackboard will save your second attempt as the final score, not the highest score.

The Syllabus Quiz will consist of ten (10) questions with each question worth ten (10) points for a total of 100 points.

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

2. **Autobiographical Sketch (100 points possible)**
In 300—600 words, tell your classmates something about you. As a way for all of us to learn something about you, share whatever you think appropriate about:

   - your personal life and family;
   - your work;
   - your hobbies;
   - your school experiences;
   - any honors or awards you have earned; and,
   - your plans for the future.

Post your sketch to the “Autobiographical Sketch” discussion on the Discussion Board by the due date and time in the Course Schedule Overview.

Evaluation of the “Autobiographical Sketch” assignment is “all or none”. If you follow the above assignment and post it to the appropriate place in Blackboard by the date and time in the Course Schedule Overview, you will receive full credit. If you do not follow the above assignment, or if you do not post by the date and time in the Course Schedule Overview, you will receive no credit for the assignment.

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

3. **Initial Responses to Assigned Readings (Eighteen (18) initial responses at 20 points each for 360 total points).**
This learning activity requires you to read the reading assignment and post an initial reflection/response to the reading by the due date/time posted in the course schedule.

All postings, **Initial Responses to the Reading are required to add value and substance** to the online conversation. Rather than just writing "I agree," write "I agree because...." It is the explanation of the "because" that adds value and substance to the online discussion. Participants in this class will not always agree with the instructor, their classmates, or any of the authors cited in the materials.
presented—but any university student should be able to explain the reason for their agreement or disagreement.

In every post, do one or more of the following:

- Agree with the author and explain why you agree.
- Disagree with the author and explain why you disagree.
- Provide a different perspective to the reading.
- Provide a different reference for the reading.
- Provide a different perspective of the ideas in the reading.
- Provide a different example for the application of the ideas in the reading.
- Apply the ideas in the reading to a different set of circumstances.
- Tell a story about how the topic relates to your life.
- Explain how you will apply the ideas in the reading to your future classroom or students.
- Explain how the ideas in the reading might have unintended consequences in the future.

Remember that the written reflections you share with us are open ended conversations shared with classmates, not summaries of the readings but a discussion about your understanding of the reading. The thinking you share with the class does not have to be a well-organized essay, but it must demonstrate that you have reflected on what you have read.

Your Initial Responses will receive full credit if they demonstrate serious thinking. Responses that do not demonstrate serious thinking will receive no credit.

This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

4. Response to Peers (Thirty-Six (36) responses at 10 points each for 360 total points)
You are required to post a written response to at least two (2) of your peer’s “Initial Responses to Assigned Readings” for each assigned reading.

This activity requires you to read your classmate’s Initial Responses to the assigned reading and post responses to at least two (2) of your classmates.

All Responses to Peers, should add value and substance to the online conversation. Rather than just writing “I agree,” write “I agree because....” It is the explanation of the “because” that adds value and substance to the online discussion. Participants in this class will not always agree with the instructor, classmates, or any of the authors we read—but any university student should be able to explain the reason for their agreement or disagreement.

In every Response to a Classmate, do one or more of the following:

- Agree with your classmate and explain why you agree.
- Disagree with your classmate and explain why you disagree.
- Provide a different perspective about the topic.
- Provide a different frame of reference for the topic.
- Provide a different example.
- Apply your classmates’ ideas to a different by related topic.
- Tell a story about how your classmate’s response to the reading relates to your life.
- Explain how your classmate’s response to the reading will affect your teaching in the future.
- Explain how your classmate’s ideas, if applied, might have unintended consequences in the future.
Remember that the written reflections you share with us and your responses to peers are open-ended conversations not summaries of the readings or summaries of your peers’ postings. Your responses to your peers do not have to have a clear beginning, middle, and end.

It does not have to read like a coherent formal essay (though it may, if you so choose). But it ought to represent your serious thinking about the important consequences of particular beliefs (yours and others), and it must demonstrate that you have reflected on what you have read, and it ought to add value to the conversation about the reading.

Responses to classmates that demonstrate serious thinking will receive full credit. Responses to classmates that do not demonstrate serious thinking will receive no credit.

This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

Special Note Regarding Your Grades for Initial Responses to the Reading and Responses to Peers:

Since students are required to post an initial response, which is valued at 20 points, and two (2) responses to peers, which are valued at 10 points each (total 20 points), I will combine the response points for each assigned reading into one grade in the Blackboard grade book.

For Example:

If student A posts an initial response to the Chapter 4 reading assignment, and posts two (2) responses to two (2) different peers, student A will receive a maximum of forty (40, [20+10+10]) points under the Chapter 4 tab in the Blackboard grade book.

If student B posts an initial response to the Chapter 4 reading assignment, and posts only one (1) response to one (1) peer, student B will receive a maximum of thirty (30, [20+10+0]) points under the Chapter 4 tab in the Blackboard grade book.

If student C posts an initial response to the Chapter 4 reading assignment, and does not post a response to any peer, student C will receive a maximum of twenty (20, [20+0+0]) points under the Chapter 4 tab in the Blackboard grade book.

5. IRIS Module – Cultural and Linguistic Differences: What Teachers Should Know (100 points).

Go to the IRIS website: http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/clde/chalcycle.htm. Click on “Challenge” and view the movie. If you are unable to view the movie, then “View the Transcript” and read the information. Next, click on “Thoughts” and read the information. Next, click on “Perspectives and Resources” and read the information. Click on “Assessment” and answer all questions using the Template provided in Blackboard. Click “Wrap Up” and read over the module’s summary. When completing the template, be sure to type your answers in black. Post your completed Template as an “attachment” in the Blackboard assignment titled “IRIS Module: Cultural and Linguistic Difference.” Do not “cut and paste” this assignment.

Failure to use the Template, type in black, or post as an attachment will result in a final grade of zero (0).

This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 2, 6, 8, 9, 13, and 15

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

6. Article Review on Children’s Multicultural Literature (100 points).
One of the goals for this class is that students will examine children's multicultural literature. Therefore, students are required to research an article that addresses this goal. Your Research Article must focus on the topic of Children's Multicultural Literature for credit. Reviews are typically 1 ½ to 2 pages in length. No credit will be given if your article is older than five (5) years.

Please see the Article Review Template and Rubric in BlackBoard. Complete this assignment and post by the dates and times specified in the Course Schedule.

**This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 8, 10, 13, 15, and 16.**

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

7. **Cultural Research Project (100 points).**
   This learning activity provides you with an opportunity to research a culture other than your own. NO CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN IF YOU REPORT ON YOUR OWN CULTURE. Some of the previously research cultures include, but are not limited to: African-American, Amish, Japanese, Mexican, Latino, Anglo-American, Puerto Ricans, Mescalero Apache Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Islamic, Iranian, Turkish, Ethiopia and Jewish culture. Required content includes a minimum of ten (10) elements of deep culture found in the Cultural Research Project folder on the left side of the homepage in Blackboard.

   This research project must adhere to APA guidelines. Go to [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/) for guidance in APA. There is a link in the Blackboard assignment for your convenience.

   This learning activity is limited to no more than ten pages; double spaced, and 12 point font. Please see the grading rubric in the Blackboard assignment to see how this assignment will be assessed.

   Please feel free to collaborate with your colleagues for this project in Blackboard. I have set up a discussion board titled, “Discussions among Colleagues” so you may ask each other questions in the online classroom. As always, please feel free to exchange personal emails and phone numbers.

   This learning activity must be posted in the Blackboard Discussion Board as an attachment in the discussion titled, “Cultural Research Project” for credit. Post as an “attachment” in Blackboard.

   Do not cut and paste this assignment as no credit will be given if it is not posted as an attachment.

   *Your partner is depending on your faithful adherence to the timeline of this assignment, so PLEASE be mindful of the due date.*

   Please see the Grading Rubric in Blackboard to see how you will be evaluated for this assignment.

   **This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 2, 6, and 7.**

   You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

8. **Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation (100 points).**
   This learning activity provides you to opportunity to think about factors that are important to consider when choosing a multicultural curriculum. You are required to research a curriculum considered to be useful when working with multicultural populations. Most of the available curriculum you research will be for English Language Learners, Bilingual Programs, Emersion Programs or Migrate Programs, but can be any curriculum arguably connected to multicultural curriculum.

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The curriculum you select to evaluate must be currently used in public or private schools and approved by their local school board. Finding appropriate curriculums may be accomplish by calling your local school district and asking what programs they use for math, science, reading, or social studies or by searching district’s websites for currently used curriculums or program.

This assignment requires you to complete the Template and Rubric located on the left hand side of the Homepage in BlackBoard in the “Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation” link. When completing the template, be sure to type your answers in black.

Please feel free to collaborate with your colleagues for this project in Blackboard. As always, please feel free to exchange personal emails and phone numbers.

This learning activity must be posted in the Blackboard Discussion Board as an attachment using the Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation Template in the discussion titled, “Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation” for credit. Post as an “attachment” in Blackboard.

Do not cut and paste this assignment as no credit will be given if it is not posted as an attachment.

Your partner is depending on your faithful adherence to the timeline of this assignment, so PLEASE be mindful of the due date.

Please see the Grading Rubric in Black to see how you will be evaluated for this assignment.

This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.

9. Evaluation of Partner’s Cultural Research Project (100 points).
Students will be partnered with a peer (or peers) in the class. Partners will evaluate each other’s Cultural Research Project according to the “Cultural Research Project Rubric” posted in BlackBoard.

Evaluations should reflect a serious, professional, and thoughtful reading of your partner’s Cultural Research Project.

While suggestions for improvement are invited and encouraged, please be mindful of the tone of your response to your colleague. If you have questions about the Cultural Research Project, use Islander email and/or the appropriate discussion board to ask your partner(s) for clarification. An honest and thoughtful question may lead to an improvement in the Cultural Research Project or the answer to your question may provide you a new way to approach your own understanding of cultures.

Special Note: You must use and post the completed Cultural Research Project Rubric (as an attachment) if you expect to earn credit for this assignment.

Using the “Reply” button in the discussion where you found your partner’s Cultural Research Project post the completed Cultural Research Project Rubric as an attachment to your reply. The rubric is provided in a Word format for your convenience.

Students who complete and post the Cultural Research Project Rubric and whose evaluations appear to reflect a serious, professional, and thoughtful reading of the project will receive full credit for this assignment.
Students who do not complete and post the Cultural Research Project Rubric for their partner(s) and whose evaluations appear superficial, less than professional, or less than thoughtful will receive no points for this assignment.

Part of becoming a professional educator is learning to evaluate the work of others according to specific criteria. For this assignment, the “Cultural Research Project Rubric” contains the specific criteria you are required to use to evaluate your partner’s Cultural Research Project.

The purpose of this assignment is threefold: 1) to allow your partner to have an outside reader of her or his work before final submission to Blackboard; 2) to provide you with the opportunity to see another Cultural Research Project before you submit your own Cultural Research Project; and, 3) provide an opportunity to revise your own Cultural Research Project to better fit the Cultural Research Project Rubric prior to final submission to Blackboard.

To complete this assignment, do the following:

- Post your own Cultural Research Project to the Cultural Research Discussion as stated in assignment number five (5) above by the due date;
- Find your partner’s Cultural Research Project in the same Cultural Research Project Discussion;
- Complete the “Cultural Research Project Rubric” to evaluate your partner’s Cultural Research Project as described above; and,
- Using the “Reply” button in the discussion where you found your partner’s Cultural Research Project, attach the completed “Cultural Research Project Rubric” for your partner’s reading pleasure.

Please remember that your partner is counting on you to post your work in a timely manner. To do otherwise is unprofessional and creates considerable anxiety and frustration for your partner and the instructor.

This assignment meets Learning Outcome: 7

You may work ahead in this course, but you cannot work backwards. No late work is accepted at any time without a university excused absence per the applicable University policy.

10. Evaluation of Partner’s Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation (100 points).

Students will be partnered with a peer (or peers) in the class. Partners will evaluate each other’s Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation according to the “Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation Template and Rubric” posted in BlackBoard. Evaluations should reflect a serious, professional, and thoughtful reading of your partner’s Curriculum Research and Evaluation Project.

While suggestions for improvement are invited and encouraged, please be mindful of the tone of your response to your colleague. If you have questions about the Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation, use email and/or the discussion to ask your partner(s) for clarification. An honest and thoughtful question may lead to an improvement in the Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation or the answer to your question may provide you a new way to approach your own understanding of curriculum.

Use the “Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation Rubric” to score your partner’s Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation. Using the “Reply” button in the discussion where you found your partner’s project, post the completed “Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation Rubric” as an attachment to your reply.
Students who apply the “Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation Template and Rubric” and whose evaluations appear to reflect a serious, professional, and thoughtful reading of the project will receive full credit for this assignment. Students who do not use the “Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation Template and Rubric,” whose evaluations appear to be less than serious, less than professional and less than thoughtful will receive no points for this assignment.

Part of becoming a professional educator is learning to evaluate the work of others according to specific criteria. For this assignment, the “Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation Rubric” provides the specific criteria you are required to use to evaluate your partner’s project.

The purpose of this assignment is threefold:
1. to allow your partner to have an outside reader of her or his work before final submission to me;
2. to provide you the opportunity to see another Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation before you submit your own project to me; and,
3. to provide an opportunity to revise your own project to better fit the “Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation Rubric” prior to final submission to BlackBoard.

To complete this assignment, do the following:
- Post your Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation to the Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation Discussion by the due date stated in the Course Schedule;
- Find your partner’s Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation in the same discussion in which you posted your own project;
- Use the “Multicultural Curriculum Evaluation Rubric” to evaluate your partner’s project as described above; and,
- Using the “Reply” button in the discussion where you found your partner’s project, attach the completed “Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation Rubric” by the date and time stated in the Course Schedule.

Please remember that your partner is counting on you to post your work in a timely manner. To do otherwise is unprofessional and creates considerable anxiety and frustration for your partner and the instructor.

This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 10, and 11.

You may work ahead in this course, but you cannot work backwards. No late work is accepted at any time without a university excused absence per the applicable University policy.

11. Final Submission of Cultural Research Project (100 points)
Post your final revised Cultural Research Project Template as an “attachment” in the Blackboard assignment titled, “Cultural Research Project” found in the tab “Cultural Research Project” on the left side of the course homepage.

Failure to post the final Cultural Research Project will result in the loss of all points for this assignment, even though the student may have posted to the Cultural Research Project the appropriate Discussion in Blackboard.

This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 2, 6, and 7.

You may work ahead, but you cannot work backward in this course. No late work will be accepted without a university excused absence. Be sure to check the Course Schedule Overview for due dates.
12. **Final Submission of Multicultural Curriculum Research and Evaluation (100 points).**
Post your final submission of your Curriculum Research and Evaluation in BlackBoard. Complete this assignment and post by the due dates specified in the Course Schedule.
*This assignment meets Learning Outcomes: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.*

You make work ahead in this course, but you cannot work backwards. No late work is accepted at any time without a university excused absence per the applicable University policy.

IX. **Course Schedule**
Please see the Course Schedule Overview in BlackBoard for all due dates.

**Class Policies**
- **Written Work in ERST 5302**
  All written work in ERST 5302 must be in 10- or 12-point font, double spaced, with absolute minimum surface errors (spelling, punctuation, grammar, etc.) and must follow accepted styles and rules of standard written English. If you want/need help with your academic writing, please contact the TAMCC writing center.

  All written work submitted in hard-copy form must be stapled (if more than one page) and paginated.

- **Do Not Email Assignments**
  Absolutely no assignments will be accepted through regular TAMUCC email.

- **Submission of Late Work**
  Late work is not accepted! There will be no exceptions to this policy.

- **Class Attendance and Participation**
  The degree to which you attend and participate in all of the learning activities in ERST 5302 is a direct indicator of your commitment to the teaching profession and as such is noted by the instructor. The Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Student Handbook and Code of Conduct 2010-2011 includes the following policy regarding class attendance:

  Students are held accountable for class attendance and are advised that excessive absences may adversely affect their grades. Every instructor should clearly explain the policy on class attendance at the beginning of each course. If students are absent from class on approved university business (e.g., intercollegiate athletics competition/travel, field trips, student research conferences, Board of Regents meetings), faculty members should count [the absence] as an excused absence and should not penalize the student for it. Students [absent from a scheduled class meeting because of approved university business] should be allowed to make up any required course work in advance or after return to campus. Students are responsible for informing instructors about the [approved university absence] in advance, so instructors can plan accordingly. If [students] have any doubt as to whether the activity in question is considered official university business, [students] should contact the Provost’s Office [for clarification].

- **Academic Honesty**
  University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to a penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.)
  [http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~students/JAffairs/ja_hndbk_academic_info.htm](http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~students/JAffairs/ja_hndbk_academic_info.htm)
• **Classroom Conduct**

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Faculty has the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. Disruptive students in the academic setting hinder the educational process. Disruption, as applied to the academic setting, means behavior that a reasonable faculty member would view as interfering with normal academic functions. Examples include, but are not limited to, persistently speaking without being recognized or interrupting other speakers, behavior which distracts the class from the subject matter or discussion, or in extreme cases, physical threats, harassing behavior or personal insults, or refusal to comply with faculty direction. Students are expected to refrain from disruptive behavior at all times. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to disciplinary action.  
http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~students/JAffairs/ja_hndbk_rules_n_regulations.htm

• **Disabilities**

“The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816 or visit the office in Driftwood 101.” http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu

The Texas A & M University – Corpus Christi’s College of Education does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the recruitment and admission of students, the recruitment and employment of faculty and staff, and the operation of any of its programs and activities, as specified by federal laws and regulations. The student has the responsibility of informing the course instructor of any disabling condition that will require modifications to avoid discrimination.

If you are a returning veteran and experience cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

• **Statement of Civility**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of gender, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, age, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated. http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~students/JAffairs/ja_hndbk_academic_info.htm

• **Grade Appeals**

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.
X. Required Texts:
ISBN: 9781416660674

ISBN10: 1929229488

Optional Readings and Learning Resources:
The Reading Teacher
The English Journal
Educational Leadership